

# Virginia 2005

## TRAFFIC CRASH FACTS



# Commissioner's Message

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Dear Reader,

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles is pleased to present the 2005 edition of **Virginia Traffic Crash Facts**. This document is the result of the cooperative efforts of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Department of State Police and the Virginia Department of Transportation. It provides a comprehensive view of traffic crashes occurring in Virginia.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow highway safety advocates for their endeavors. We at DMV pledge our continued commitment to safe highways for all citizens through innovative, effective and efficient public service.

I hope you will find this publication to be a comprehensive and useful tool in problem identification, education and community activities. Any comments you may have about the information or format are welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. B. Smit".

D. B. Smit  
Commissioner

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# Glossary

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**Alcohol-related crash:** Crash where either a driver, bicyclist or pedestrian is listed on the police report as drinking before the crash.

**Alcohol-related fatality:** Person who dies within 30 days as a result of a traffic crash involving alcohol.

**Crash rate:** Number of crashes per 100 million vehicle miles, unless otherwise stated.

**Death rate per vehicle miles traveled:** Number of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles.

**Death rate per drivers:** Number of fatalities per 1,000 Virginia licensed drivers.

**Fatal crash:** Crash which results in one or more fatalities.

**Fatality:** Person who dies within 30 days as a result of a traffic crash.

**Licensed drivers:** Statistics are calendar year and include learner's permits.

**Percentage:** Based on “known” totals within categories or actions. Does not include “unknown” or “not stated” data.

**Personal injury crash:** Crash which results in no fatalities but one or more persons are injured.

**Property damage crash:** Crash which results in no fatalities or injuries, but there is property damage of at least \$1,000.

**Registered vehicles:** Statistics are calendar year.

**Reportable traffic crash:** Crash on a public highway which involves death, injury or property damage in excess of \$1,000.

**Vehicle miles traveled (VMT):** Total number of miles traveled on Virginia highways.

NOTE: Percentage on tables within documents are rounded and may not equal 100 percent.

# 2005 Quick Facts About Virginia

## General Facts

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- 946 persons were killed, a 2.60 percent increase from 2004
- 76,023 persons were injured, a 3.14 percent decrease from 2004
- 153,849 traffic crashes were reported, a 0.04 percent decrease from 2004
- There were 5,362,140 licensed drivers, a 0.92 percent increase from 2004
- There were 80,335,040,000 estimated vehicle miles traveled, a 1.85 percent increase from 2004
- There were 7,246,709 registered vehicles, a 2.97 percent increase from 2004

## Alcohol-Related Facts

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- 322 persons were killed in alcohol-related crashes, a 6.12 percent decrease from 2004\*
- 7,512 persons were injured in alcohol-related crashes, a 5.04 percent decrease from 2004
- 32 teenagers, aged 15-19, were killed in alcohol-related crashes, 3.38 percent of the total (946) traffic fatalities
- 809 teenagers, aged 15-19, were injured in alcohol-related crashes, 1.06 percent of the total (76,023) traffic injuries
- 25,283 persons were tested with blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 percent or greater a 7.13 percent decrease from 2004
- The average BAC of tested drinking drivers was .1411\*\*
- Of those convicted of DUI, 81.79 percent were male and 17.73 percent were female
- 28,070 persons were convicted of DUI, 1.41 percent decrease from 2004

NOTE: \*Medical examiner data used in addition to police reports to determine alcohol-related status.

\*\*This includes an average of both breath and blood tests.